

## LIB

Before they did oppress the people, only by colour of a *lewd* custom, they did afterwards use the same oppressions by warrant.

*Davies on Ireland.*

3. Lufful; libidinous.

He is not lolling on a *lewd* love bed,

But on his knees at meditation. *Shakespeare's Rich. III.*

Then *lewd* Anchemolus he laid in dust,

Who stain'd his stepdam's bed with impious lust. *Dryden.*

LE'WDLY. *adj.* [from *lewd*.]

1. Wickedly; naughtily.

A sort of naughty persons, *lewdly* bent,

Have practis'd dangerously against your state. *Shakespeare.*

2. Libidinally; lustfully.

He lov'd fair lady Elfred, *lewdly* lov'd,

Whose wanton pleasures him too much did please,

That quite his heart from Guendeline remov'd. *Spenser.*

So *lewdly* dull his idle works appear,

The wretched texts deserve no comments here. *Dryden.*

LE'WDNESS. *n. f.* [from *lewd*.] Lustful licentiousness.

Suffer no *lewdness*, nor indecent speech,

Th' apartment of the tender youth to reach. *Dryd. Juv.*

Damianus's letter to Nicholas is an authentick record

of the *lewdness* committed under the reign of celibacy. *Atterbury.*

LE'WDSTER. *n. f.* [from *lewd*.] A lecher; one given to criminal pleasures.

Against such *lewdsters*, and their lechery,

Those that betray them do no treachery. *Shakespeare.*

LE'WTS D'OR. *n. f.* [French.] A golden French coin, in

value twelve livres, now settled at seventeen shillings. *Dict.*

LEXICOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [αλεξικλον and γρῶμα; *lexicographie*,

French.] A writer of dictionaries; a harmless drudge, that

bustles himself in tracing the original, and detailing the signi-

fication of words.

Commentators and *lexicographers* acquainted with the Sy-

riac language, have given these hints in their writings on

scripture. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*

LEXICOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [αλεξικλον and γρῶμα.] The art or prac-

tice of writing dictionaries.

LEXICON. *n. f.* [αλεξικλον.] A dictionary; a book teaching

the signification of words.

Though a linguist should pride himself to have all the

tongues that Babel cleft the world into, yet if he had not

studied the solid things in them as well as the words and *lexi-*

*cons*, yet he were nothing so much to be esteemed a learned

man as any yeoman competently wise in his mother dialect

only. *Milton.*

LEY. *n. f.*

Ley, lee, lay, are all from the Saxon leag, a field or pas-

ture, by the usual melting of the letter x or g. *Gibson's Cam.*

LI'ABLE. *n. f.* [liable, from *liar*, old French.] Obnoxious;

not exempt; subject.

But what is strength without a double share

Of wisdom? vast, unwieldy, burthenfome,

Proudly secure, yet liable to fall

By weakest subtleties. *Milton's Agonistes.*

The English boast of Spenser and Milton, who neither of

them wanted genius or learning; and yet both of them are

liable to many censures. *Dryden's Juvenal.*

This, or any other scheme, coming from a private hand,

might be liable to many defects. *Swift.*

LIAR. *n. f.* [from *lie*.] This word would analogically be *liar*;

but this orthography has prevailed, and the convenience of

distinction from *liar*, he who lies down, is sufficient to con-

firm it. One who tells falsehood; one who wants veracity.

She's like a *liar*, gone to burning hell!

'Twas I that kill'd her. *Shakespeare's Othello.*

He approves the common *liar*, fame,

Who speaks him thus at Rome. *Shakespeare's Ant. and Cleop.*

I do not reject his observation as untrue, much less con-

demn the person himself as a *liar*, whenever it seems to

be contradicted. *Boyle.*

Thy better soul abhors a *liar's* part,

Wife is thy voice, and noble is thy heart. *Pope's Odyssey.*

LI'ARD. *adj.*

1. Mingled roan.

2. *Liard* in Scotland denotes gray-haired: as, he's a *liard* old

man.

LIBA'TION. *n. f.* [libatio, Latin.]

1. The act of pouring wine on the ground in honour of some

deity.

In digging new earth pour in some wine, that the vapour

of the earth and wine may comfort the spirits, provided it

be not taken for a heathen sacrifice, or libation to the earth.

*Bacon's Natural History.*

2. The wine so poured.

They had no other crime to object against the Christians,

but that they did not offer up libations, and the smoke of

sacrifices, to dead men. *Stillington on Rom. Idolatry.*

The goblet then she took, with nectar crown'd,

Sprinkling the first libations on the ground. *Dryden's An.*

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LI'BEARD. *n. f.* [libard, German; leopardus, Lat.] A leopard.

Make the *libard* stern,

Leave roaring, when in rage he for revenge did yearn.

*Spenser's Fairy Queen, l. i.*

The *libard*, and the tiger, as the mole

Rifling, the crumbled earth above them threw. *Milton.*

The torrid parts of Africk are by Pilo resembled to a

*libard's* skin, the distance of whose spots represent the dif-

ferences of habitations, or towns of Africk. *Brerewood.*

LI'BEL. *n. f.* [libellus, Latin; libelle, French.]

1. A satire; defamatory writing; a lampoon.

Are we reproached for the name of Christ? that ignominy

serves but to advance our future glory; every such *libel* here

becomes panegyric there. *Decay of Piety.*

Good heav'n! that fots and knaves should be so vain,

To wish their vile resemblance may remain!

And stand recorded, at their own request,

To future days, a *libel* or a jest. *Dryden.*

2. [In the civil law.] A declaration or charge in writing against

a person in court.

To LI'BEL. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To spread defamation;

generally written or printed.

Sweet scrawls to fly about the streets of Rome:

What's this but *libelling* against the senate? *Shakespeare.*

He, like a privileged spy, whom nothing can

Discredit, *libels* now 'gainst each great man. *Donne.*

To LI'BEL. *v. a.* To satirize; to lampoon;

Is then the peevish of England any thing dishonoured

when a peer suffers for his reason? if he be *libelled*, or any

way defamed, he has his scandalum magnatum to punish the

offender. *Dryden.*

But what so pure which envious tongues will spare?

Some wicked wits have *libelled* all the fair. *Pope.*

LI'BELLER. *n. f.* [from *libel*.] A defamer by writing; a lam-

pooner.

Our common *libellers* are as free from the imputation of

wit, as of morality. *Dryden's Juvenal.*

The squibs are those who, in the common phrase, are

called *libellers* and lampooners. *Taylor.*

The common *libellers*, in their invectives, tax the church

with an insatiable desire of power and wealth, equally com-

mon to all bodies of men. *Swift.*

LI'BELLOUS. *n. f.* [from *libel*.] Defamatory.

His majesty gave not an intire country to any, much less

did he grant jura regalia, or any extraordinary liberties. *Davies.*

LI'BERAL. *adj.* [liberalis, Latin; liberal, French.]

1. Not mean; not low in birth; not low in mind.

2. Becoming a gentleman.

3. Munificent; generous; bountiful; not parcimonious.

Her name was Mercy, well known over all

To be both gracious and eke liberal. *Spens. Fa. Queen.*

Sparing would shew a worse sin than ill doctrine.

Men of his way should be most liberal,

They're set here for examples. *Shakespeare's Henry VIII.*

Needs must the pow'r

That made us, and for us this ample world,

Be infinitely good, and of his good

As liberal and free, as infinite. *Milton.*

There is no art better than to be liberal of praise and

commendation to others, in that wherein a man's self hath

any perfection. *Bacon's Essay.*

The liberal are secure alone;

For what we frankly give, for ever is our own. *Granville.*

Several clergymen, otherwise little fond of obscure terms,

are, in their sermons, very liberal of all those which they

find in ecclesiastical writers, as if it were our duty to under-

stand them. *Swift.*

LIBERALITY. *n. f.* [liberalitas, Latin; liberalité, Fr.] Mu-

nificence; bounty; generosity; generous profusion.

Why should he despair, that knows to court

With words, fair looks, and liberality? *Shakespeare.*

Such moderation with thy bounty join,

That thou may'st nothing give that is not thine;

That liberality is but cast away,

Which makes us borrow what we cannot pay. *Denham.*

LIBERALLY. *adv.* [from *liberal*.] Bounteously; bountifully;

largely.

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that

giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not. *James i. 5.*

LI'BERTINE. *n. f.* [libertin, French.]

1. One unconfin'd; one at liberty.

When he speaks,

The air, a charter'd *libertine*, is still;

And the mute wonder lurketh in men's ears,

To steal his sweet and honied sentences. *Shakespeare's Hen. V.*

2. One who lives without restraint or law.

Man, the lawless *libertine*, may rove

Free and unquestion'd. *Rowe's Jane Shore.*

Want of power is the only bound that a *libertine* puts to

his views upon any of the sex. *Clarissa.*

2. One

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2. One who pays no regard to the precepts of religion.

They say this town is full of couzenage,

As nimble jugglers, that deceive the eye;

Digested cheaters, prating mountebanks,

And many such like *libertines* of sin. *Shakespeare.*

That word may be applied to some few *libertines* in the

audience. *Collier's View of the Stage.*

3. [In law; *libertinus*, Lat.] A freedman; or rather, the son

of a freedman.

Some persons are forbidden to be accusers on the score of

their sex, as women; others on the score of their age, as

pupils and infants; others on the score of their conditions, as

*libertines* against their patrons. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

LI'BERTINE. *adj.* [libertin, French.] Licentious; irreligious.

There are men that marry not, but chuse rather a *libertine*

and impure single life, than to be yoked in marriage. *Bacon.*

Might not the queen make diligent enquiry, if any person

about her should happen to be of *libertine* principles or mo-

vals. *Swift's Project for Advancement of Religion.*

LI'BERTINISM. *n. f.* [from *libertine*.] Irreligion; licentiousness

of opinions and practice.

That spirit of religion and seriousness vanished all at once,

and a spirit of liberty and *libertinism*, of infidelity and pro-

faneness, started up in the room of it. *Atterbury's Sermons.*

LI'BERTY. *n. f.* [liberté, French; libertas, Latin.]

1. Freedom, as opposed to slavery.

My master knows of your being here, and hath threatened

to put me into everlasting *liberty*, if I tell you of it; for he

swears, he'll turn me away. *Shakespeare.*

O *liberty*! thou goddess, heav'nly bright!

Profuse of blis, and pregnant with delight,

Eternal pleasures in thy presence reign. *Addison.*

2. Freedom, as opposed to necessity.

*Liberty* is the power in any agent to do, or forbear, any

particular action, according to the determination, or thought

of the mind, whereby either of them is preferred to the

other. *Locke.*

As it is in the motions of the body, so it is in the thoughts

of our minds: where any one is such, that we have power

to take it up, or lay it by, according to the preference of the

mind, there we are at *liberty*. *Locke.*

2. Privilege; exemption; immunity.

His majesty gave not an intire country to any, much less

did he grant jura regalia, or any extraordinary liberties. *Davies.*

4. Relaxation of restraint.

5. Leave; permission.

I shall take the *liberty* to consider a third ground, which,

with some men, has the same authority. *Locke.*

LI'BDINOUS. *n. f.* [libidinofus, Latin.] Lewd; lustful.

None revolt from the faith; because they must not look upon

a woman to lust after her, but because they are much more

restrained from the perpetration of their lusts. If wanton

glances and *libidinous* thoughts had been permitted by the gos-

pel, they would have apostatized nevertheless. *Bentley.*

LI'BDINOUSLY. *adv.* [from *libidinous*.] Lewdly; lustfully.

LI'BRAL. *adj.* [libralis, Latin.] Of a pound weight.